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(a) The positions to be filled must be related to emergency situations for which the usual recruiting methods are inadequate.

(b) The positions must be a part of a specific program immediately essential to the national interest.

(c) The positions must be essential to the functioning of the program.

(d) There must be substantial basis for the belief that reemployment rights will be a significant and reasonable aid in meeting the emergency situation.

§ 352.204 Basic eligibility for reemployment rights.

(a) *Employees eligible.* The following employees in the executive branch of the Government are eligible to be granted reemployment rights when they are hired by another executive agency without break in service of a full workday by transfer or reinstatement, or by excepted appointment, in a position which the agency is currently authorized to fill with reemployment rights:

(1) An employee serving in a competitive position under a career or career-conditional appointment;

(2) An employee serving under a career appointment in the Senior Executive Service (SES); or

(3) A nontemporary excepted employee.

(b) *Employees not eligible.* The following employees are not eligible to be granted reemployment rights:

(1) An employee who is serving a probationary or trial period under an appointment to a position in the excepted or competitive service or the SES.

(2) An employee serving in an obligated position;

(3) An employee serving with reemployment rights granted under this subpart;

(4) An employee who has received a notice of involuntary separation because of reduction in force or otherwise; or

(5) An employee who has already submitted a resignation.

[33 FR 12433, Sept. 4, 1968, as amended at 51 FR 25187, July 11, 1986]

§ 352.205 Appeal of losing agency.

An appointing officer who intends to employ with reemployment rights an

employee of another executive agency shall give the losing agency written notice at least 15 calendar days before the effective date of the proposed action. If the losing agency believes the grant of reemployment rights would be detrimental to the public interest, it may appeal the proposed grant to OPM within 15 calendar days after receipt of the notice. The losing agency, at the same time, shall furnish a copy of the appeal to the prospective appointing officer, who shall withhold the proposed grant pending decision on the appeal. OPM shall determine whether the employee will be given reemployment rights and notify both agencies accordingly. If the losing agency does not appeal within 15 calendar days, the employee shall be granted reemployment rights.

§ 352.205a Authority to return employee to his or her former or successor agency.

The transfer of an employee with a grant of reemployment rights under this subpart authorizes the return of the employee to his or her former or successor agency without regard to part 351, 752, or 771 of this chapter when the employee is reemployed in his or her former or successor agency—

(a) Without a break in service of 1 workday or more in a position at the same or higher grade in the same occupational field and geographical area as the position he or she last held in the former or successor agency; and

(b) At not less than the rate of pay he or she would have been receiving in the position last held in the former or successor agency if he or she had not been transferred.

[51 FR 25187, July 11, 1986]

§ 352.205b Authority to return an SES employee to his or her former or successor agency.

The transfer of a career SES appointee with a grant of reemployment rights under this subpart authorizes the return of the employee to his or her former or successor agency when the employee is reemployed in his or her former or successor agency—

(a) Without a break in service of 1 workday or more in any position in the

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SES for which the employee is qualified; and

(b) At not less than the SES rate of basic pay as determined under 5 CFR part 534, subpart D at which the employee was being paid immediately before his or her transfer.

[51 FR 25187, July 11, 1986]

§ 352.206 Expiration of reemployment rights.

Reemployment rights granted under a Letter of Authority expire at the end of 2 years following the date of the personnel action, unless exercised or otherwise terminated before that time, except that the reemployment rights of an employee serving outside the continental United States extend for an additional period of 3 months.

§ 352.207 Exercise or termination of reemployment rights.

(a) *Exercise.* The time limits for application for reemployment under this subpart are:

(1) Within 30 calendar days before the expiration of the term of reemployment rights;

(2) Within 30 calendar days after receipt of notice of involuntary separation;

(3) At least 30 calendar days in advance of the person's scheduled entry into active military duty. In this case he shall be reemployed and separated, furloughed, or granted leave of absence for military service by the reemploying agency; or

(4) At any time before the expiration of the term of reemployment rights with the written consent of the current employing agency if application for reemployment is made within 30 days after date of separation, or after receipt of advance notice of proposed demotion by the current employing agency.

(b) *Termination.* An employee's reemployment rights terminate if:

(1) He fails to apply within the time limits stated in paragraph (a) of this section;

(2) He resigns without the written consent of the current employing agency; or

(3) Within 10 calendar days, he fails to accept an offer of reemployment made under § 352.208 which is deter-

mined to be a proper offer of reemployment by the reemploying agency or by the Merit Systems Protection Board on appeal.

§ 352.208 Agency's obligation to reemploy.

(a) *Employee's right to reemployment.* An employee is entitled to be reemployed by the reemploying agency as promptly as possible but not more than 30 calendar days after receipt of his application. Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, the employee is entitled to reemployment in the occupational field and at the same grade or level and in the same geographical area as the position which the employee last held in that agency. If the reemployment would cause the separation or demotion of another employee, the applicant shall then be considered an employee for the purpose of applying the reduction-in-force regulations (5 CFR part 351) to determine to what, if any, position, he or she is entitled.

(b) *Reemployment in a higher grade.* The reemploying agency may reemploy the employee in a position of higher grade than that to which he is entitled, but not if this reemployment would cause the displacement of another employee.

(c) *Reemployment in SES.* When the employee's right is to a position in the SES, reemployment or return may be to any position in the SES for which the employee is qualified.

(d) *Seniority in postal service.* On reemployment in the postal service, the employee is entitled to the seniority he would have attained had he remained in the postal service.

(e) *Basis for agency refusal to reemploy.* An agency may refuse to reemploy under this section only when the employee was last separated for serious cause evidencing his unsuitability for reemployment.

[33 FR 12433, Sept. 4, 1968, as amended at 51 FR 25187, July 11, 1986]

§ 352.209 Employee appeals to the Merit Systems Protection Board.

When an agency denies reemployment to a person claiming reemployment rights under this subpart, the agency shall inform him or her of that denial by a written notice. In the same